

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicants: C. Hauger et al

Group Art Unit: 2872

Patent Application

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Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(c)(1)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The applicants herewith state that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

The information was received by the applicants in the form of a report from the Japanese Patent Office in the parallel Japanese patent application. In this report, the following Japanese patent publications were cited: 2,542,759; 2,681,092; and 11-271639. These publications correspond to EP 0,475,502 A2; DE 36 23 394 A1 and DE 199 01 963 A1, respectively, which are submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

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